

Marxism 2009 Program

— Updated March 25 —

Thursday 9th April - 6:30pm

Public meeting: Challenging capitalism and war: featuring a left wing activist from Egypt **Mamdouh Habashi**, American socialist and author of a new book on the Vietnam War **Joe Allen** and Socialist Alternative National Executive member **Sandra Bloodworth**.

Friday 10th April

- 10am** • *Marxist foundations:* The Russian revolution: The real story
 - Sri Lanka: Where Trotskyism became a mass movement with **Vashti Kenway**
 - Trading in pollution: Environmental destruction & the fallacy of market solutions with **Liz Walsh**
- 11:30 am** • Bubble to Bust: The Global Economy Today with Deutscher prize winning author **Rick Kuhn**
 - *Marxist foundations:* Do revolutions always end in dictatorships?
 - Australia and the “Good War”: Opposition and Resistance during WW2 with **Tom O’Lincoln** author of a soon to be published book on the war
- 2pm** • Q and A with renowned investigative reporter and documentary filmmaker **John Pilger**
 - Standing up to imperialism and war: an eye witness account from Lebanon from socialist activist **Bassem Chit**
- 4pm** • What does the Obama presidency mean for world politics with American socialist **Joe Allen**
 - The Northern Territory intervention: the latest racist land grab with NT Aboriginal activist **Barbara Shaw**, one of the leaders of the Intervention Rollback Action Group, and Socialist Alternative's **Diane Fieldes**
- 7pm** • Debate on way forward for the union movement with **Tom Bramble** author of a new book on the history of the Australian union movement and Grahame McCulloch, General Secretary, National Tertiary Education Union

- Fighting back against capitalist crisis: A first hand report on worker and student resistance in Greece with Greek activist **Thanasis Kourkoulas**
- *Marxist foundations:* What is the revolutionary attitude to violence and non-violence?
- Later** • Red Shelley: a recital by **Luke Wilson** of the revolutionary poetry of Percy Bysshe Shelley

Saturday 11th April

- 10am** • *Marxist foundations:* Is human nature a barrier to radical change?
 - Are Western workers a labour aristocracy? with **Lian Jenvey**
 - When the Diggers took on the Scabs – Retaking the Waterfront in 1919 with radical historian **Robert Bollard**
- 11:30 am** • *Marxist foundations:* Socialist Alternative: Who are we? What do we stand for?
 - What the world economic crisis means for socialists with Socialist Alternative National Executive member **Diane Fieldes**
 - Comrades Come Rally: The formation of the Australian Communist Party with **Patrick Weiniger**
- 2pm** • Imperialism and the struggle for a free Palestine with a **Palestinian Socialist**, guest speakers from the Middle East and Socialist Alternative's **Mick Armstrong**
 - Panel on Gay Liberation Movement with **Liz Ross**, **Daniel Marshall** and another special guest
 - Why does capitalism go into crisis? with **Diane Fieldes**
- 4pm** • *Marxist foundations:* Why do we need a socialist organisation?
 - The origins of Bolshevism in Russia: A new interpretation with **Sandra Bloodworth**
 - The Marxist theory of sexism, oppression and class with **Fleur Taylor**

- *Animal Farm* and 1984: Was Orwell anti-socialist? with **Liam Byrne**

- 7pm** • The socialist answer to capitalist crisis with a range of international speakers and **Vashti Kenway** from Socialist Alternative
- 9pm** • Film Screening of the Walkley award winning anti-war film *Taliban Country*, directed by Carmela Baranowska
 - Radical history tour of Melbourne University conducted by **Mick Armstrong**

Sunday 12th April

- 10am** • *Marxist foundations:* Why a class analysis matters to changing the world
 - Does the “Russia question” still matter for the left? with Socialist Alternative magazine editor **Corey Oakley**
 - The red in the rainbow – the struggle for sexual liberation with Socialist Alternative National Executive member **Louise O’Shea**
- 11:30 am** • *Marxist foundations:* The capitalist state: What it is and how to challenge it
 - A history of Anarchism – a Marxist critique by **Colleen Bolger**
 - A report on working class resistance in the Middle East by **Mamdouh Habashi** from Egypt
- 2pm** • The ABC of Marxist Economics with **Ben Hillier**
 - Does the Marxist theory of imperialism need updating? by **Tom Bramble**
 - More than a year of hard Labor: Rudd and Australian politics today with **Rebecca Barrigos**
- 4pm** • Lenin’s *What is to be done* – a re-interpretation by **Mick Armstrong**
 - Why changing the world means taking power with **Allyson Hose**
 - *Marxist foundations:* Sexism and 21st century capitalism: Why are women still oppressed?